## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 54. (Cancelled).

Claim 55. (Previously Presented) A compound having the structure

amino ester (a); 
$$R^5 - X^1 \times O \times X^1 \times X$$

amino acid (b) 
$$R^5 \times X^1 \times O \times X^1 \times V^1 \times V^1$$

wherein PG is a carboxylic acid protecting group which is methyl, ethyl or t-butyl, and

$$R^{5} = Q = R^{2a} R^{2c}$$

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wherein  $X_x^1$  is an alkylene chain of two carbons, alkenylene chain of two carbons or an alkynylene chain of two carbons;

 $\boldsymbol{X^{1}}_{m}$  is an alkylene chain of one carbon; and

X1n is an alkylene chain of one carbon;

Q is C;

A is O;

R<sup>1</sup> is methyl;

X is CH;

R<sup>2</sup> is H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

R<sup>2a</sup>, R<sup>2b</sup> and R<sup>2c</sup> are each H;

or stereoisomers thereof, or a prodrug ester thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 56. (Currently Amended) The compound as defined in Claim 55 wherein  $X_x^1$  is  $\frac{(CH_2)_{2r}}{(CH_2)_2}$ ;

X1<sub>m</sub> is CH<sub>2</sub>, or

wherein  $R_a$  is alkyl or alkenyl,  $X_n^1$  is  $CH_2$ ,  $R_n^1$  is lower alkyl, and  $R_n^2$  H,  $R_n^4$  is H, X is CH; and PG is methyl, ethyl or t-butyl.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 55 having the structure

$$\begin{array}{c} Ph \\ \longrightarrow N \\ OH_3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Ph \\ \longrightarrow \\ CH_3 \end{array}$$

$$Ph \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow CO_2 tBu$$

$$CH_3$$

Claims 58 to 82. (Cancelled).